

DRAFT

April 16, 2007

TO: Marin County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) NonMotorized Transportation Pilot Program (NTPP) Cities Subcommittee:

Joan Lundstrom, Larkspur City Council; Peter Breen, San Anselmo Town Council; Alice Fredericks, Tiburon Town Council; Carole Dillon-Knutson, Novato City Council

RE: Support for Department of Public Works Recommended NTPP Projects

Background:

Last year TAM Chair Steve Kinsey met with and formed a sub-committee of TAM city representatives to address the concern that the input of cities be recognized in the County NTPP process. The great majority of projects are within the incorporated boundaries of cities and towns and rely on “support of the agency with jurisdiction over the facility...” – a criteria used by the NTPP Advisory Committee to rank proposed projects.

During the review process, the subcommittee made a number of suggestions, many of which were incorporated into the recommendations before you. Our suggestions included: emphasizing multi-use paths for bicycles and pedestrians; incorporating paths, lanes and stairs for pedestrian connections; considering geographic equity in funding, particularly in the east-west urbanized corridor; adding a “Share the Path” educational component for multi-use pathways; and deferring the \$850,000 planning study of the feasibility of opening the Alto Tunnel between Mill Valley and Corte Madera for reasons stated in both our report and the recommendations of Marin Department of Public Works.

Department of Public Works Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors:

The Subcommittee reviewed the April 17, 2007 recommendation to the Board.

We support the Alto Tunnel Planning Project \$250,000 study of three alternatives connecting Mill Valley and Corte Madera as outlined in the County Unincorporated Area Bike-Pedestrian Plan. The proposal addresses the concerns expressed by the Town of Corte Madera about the need to conduct a thorough alternatives analysis and to recognize several engineering studies have been completed. It is consistent with the EIR process, which would require an alternatives analysis.

We applaud the addition of a number of projects that increase connectivity and improve bicycle and pedestrian safety within the east-west urbanized corridor that includes west San Rafael and the Towns of Fairfax, San Anselmo and Ross.

The Department of Public Works recommendations also address another safety concern the Cities Sub Committee supports by addition of a “Share the Path” program. This

component of the educational program that will promote countywide awareness between pedestrians and bicyclists,

We also support the addition of \$525,000 of Intersection Improvements – an important immediate benefit to many communities, bicyclists and pedestrians that will clearly demonstrate mobility changes and enhanced safety.

Finally, we want to acknowledge the difficult tasks that faced the Technical Advisory Committee, the Public Works Department staff, Director Mansourian, and your board throughout this rapidly moving process .

The NTPP implementation should surely become a national model.

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